Reduction in roaming charges

1053. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSNL has informed the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India about 50 per cent reduction in the national roaming charges in mobiles,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the current status of it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRYOF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has informed the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) about its new "BSNL One India Roaming Plan" under which roaming call charges has been reduced to Re. 1/- per minute w.e.f. 1.7.2006.

(b) "BSNL One India Roaming Plan" is a special plan under post paid cellular services with monthly fixed charges of Rs. 490/- and roaming call charges of Re. 1/- minute with pulse rate of 60 second. Other call charges are as per the "One India Plan" with Rs. 0.40/minute for cell to cell local (Own Network) calls and Re. 1.00/minute for all other calls.

(c) This plan has been launched w.e.f. 1.7.2006.

Proof of Identity from subscribers

1054. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to the reply of Unstarred Question 1484 given in Rajya Sabha on 16th December, 2004 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several private players in mobile industry are asking for proof of identity from subscribers after years of giving connections; and

(b) whether Government would probe into such serious lapses of mobile companies posing a threat to the security of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) As per licence conditions, the mobile telephone service providers are